'Spend, save or borrow' scenarios: notes for volunteer

These notes will help you to make the discussion flow. The students may think of all these ideas and more. If they don't, then you can encourage discussion using these points.

Jack:

Save or spend?





What should Jack do? Buy now or save for the better bike?

- Spend: He gets a bike now.
- **Save:** He gets the bike he really wants. Worth the wait? He helps at home which is good, but also gets what he wants.

Part 2 - tools to assist

- Has he shopped around?
- Has he used a comparison site or checked out other suppliers to see if he can buy it cheaper?
- Could he put the money in a savings account while he saves up the rest?
- Is he using a savings account?
- Could he use a budgeting app to work out how fast he can save the rest?

What should Lola do? Get some new clothes now and borrow money for London from her Mum? Save her own money and use that in London so she does not have to borrow?

- **Spend:** She gets the clothes she wants now and could wear them to London.
- Save: She may be able to buy better stuff in London and she will still have money when she gets back.
- Borrow: If she borrows some money from her Mum, she will have to pay her Mum back and won't be able to go out for a while.

Part 2 - tools to assist

- Has she been saving her allowance in a savings account?
- Could she find one that pays good interest?
- Has she shopped around? Has she looked for what kind of stuff she wants and where it's cheapest?
- Could she use a budgeting app to manage her allowance better?

What should Aleena do? Should she spend her own money now or ask her Mum to borrow the money or pay for it on her credit card?

- Spend: She would lose the interest she has earned.
- Save: She could also choose to save for longer.
- Borrow: If she borrows the money from her mum, she will get her laptop sooner and still be £15 up after earning interest from her account and paying for setting up the deal for her laptop. But, her Mum using a credit card may not be a good idea if she is unable to pay it off all at once, or it is not a zero interest card. Any borrowing becomes part of your credit history, so they need to keep up payments or it may affect their future ability to borrow.

Part 2 - tools to assist

Has she shopped around? Has she used a comparison site or checked out other suppliers to see if she can buy it cheaper?



